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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,359	12/24/2001	Brijesh Agarwal	1497210.00123US1	8067
28089	7590	03/18/2008	EXAMINER	
WILMERHALE/NEW YORK			POINVIL, FRANTZY	
399 PARK AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
NEW YORK, NY 10022			3692	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			03/18/2008	ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

michael.mathewson@wilmerhale.com  
teresa.carvalho@wilmerhale.com  
sharon.matthews@wilmerhale.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/026,359	<b>Applicant(s)</b> AGARWAL ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Frantzy Poinvil	<b>Art Unit</b> 3692	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/10/07</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Epstein (US Patent No. 6,795,811).

As per claims 1-3 and 11, Epstein discloses an electronic trading system and method for working capital. The system and method comprise:

providing respective computer-generated interfaces for a plurality of dealers and a plurality of investors; wherein a network enables messages to be exchanged between the dealer interfaces and the investor interfaces; enabling the dealers to communicate an inventory of debt security issues to the investors via the investor interfaces; enabling at least a particular investor to submit an inquiry, via the respective investor interface, for trading a particular one of the debt security

issues to multiple ones of the dealers; enabling the dealers to provide respective offers and/or bids, via their respective dealer interfaces, in response to the inquiry submitted thereto; temporarily storing the offers and/or bids provided by the dealers; and releasing the offers and/or bids to the particular investor concurrently for consideration thereby;

wherein the inquiry place the dealers in competition with one another regarding the particular debt security issue and enabling the particular investor to designate the inquiry as a firm price inquiry.

Applicant is referred to column 2, lines 17-62.

As per claims 4-9, Epstein further discloses enabling the particular investor to set a time limit for the dealers to respond to the inquiry and also enabling the dealers to set respective time limits for the particular investor to respond to the dealers' offers. Applicant is directed column 2, lines 48-62.

As per claims 10, 12, see column 2, lines 29-37 of Epstein.

As per claims 13-22, see column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 51 of Epstein.

As per claims 23-25, Epstein discloses an electronic trading system, method and program code means for enabling a plurality of traders and investors to trade over a network using working capital. In so doing, Epstein discloses:

a network enables messages to be exchanged between the dealer interfaces and the investor interfaces; the dealers are enabled to communicate an inventory of debt security issues to the investors via the investor interfaces; at least a particular investor is enabled to submit an inquiry, via the respective investor interface, for trading a particular one of the debt security issues to multiple ones of the dealers; and the dealers are enabled to provide respective offers and/or bids,

via their respective dealer interfaces, in response to the inquiry submitted thereto; and means for temporarily storing the offers and/or bids provided by the dealers, and releasing the offers and/or bids to the particular investor concurrently for consideration thereby. Applicant is directed to column 2, lines 48-62 and column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 52 of Epstein.

As per claims 26-31, see column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 52 of Epstein.

As per claims 32-34, Epstein discloses an electronic trading system, method and program code means for enabling a plurality of traders and investors to trade over a network using working capital. In so doing, Epstein discloses:

A computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for providing computer-implemented trading for debt securities; the computer readable program code means comprising means for executing instructions for: generating interfaces for a plurality of dealers and a plurality of investors; wherein a network enables messages to be exchanged between the dealer interfaces and the investor interfaces; the dealers are enabled to communicate an inventory of most actively traded debt security issues which are traded via the network; at least a particular investor is enabled to submit an order, via the respective investor interface, and based on the inventory, for trading a particular one of the most active debt security issues to at least one of the dealers; and the at least one dealer is enabled to communicate a message to the particular investor indicating whether it accepts or rejects the offer, via its respective dealer interface, in response to the inquiry submitted thereto.

Applicant is directed to column 2, lines 48-62 and column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 52 of Epstein.

As per claims 35-41, applicant is directed to column 5, line 59 to column 6, line 51 of Epstein.

### ***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (571) 272-6797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Abdi can be reached on (571) 272-6702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/Frantzy Poinvil/  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3692**

FP

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